



Target Illinois POACHERS



ILLINOIS



DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL
RESOURCES

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources Office of Law Enforcement developed the "Target Illinois Poachers" program to encourage any concerned citizen who witnesses a conservation offense to report the violation. Citizens who want to report violations can call the toll-free telephone number, 1-877-2DNRLAW (236-7529).

Callers are not required to give their names - sources are kept strictly confidential. All information received is investigated by Conservation Police Officers.



WHAT YOU SHOULD REPORT

Simply defined, "poaching" is the illegal taking or possession of game and non-game animals, fish, or other resources. To recognize illegal acts, a basic knowledge of conservation regulations is necessary. Brochures describing hunting and fishing laws and seasons are available from the Department of Natural Resources.

Hunting out of season and hunting at night with spotlights are two of the most obvious signs of poaching. Hunters and fishermen possessing more than the legal limit is another. Slow moving or partially hidden vehicles, shots heard at unusual hours or game being concealed are all suspect.

If you suspect a violation has occurred, try to take down the following information:

AUTO - license number, color, make and year.

VIOLATOR - name, address, age and description.

VIOLATION - type of violation, where and when it occurred, and location of contraband.

All of this information may be invaluable to an enforcement investigation. Call immediately. Accurate and timely information is essential.

POACHING IS A SERIOUS CRIME

It robs legitimate sportsmen of game and fish, robs businesses and taxpayers of revenues generated by hunting and fishing, and robs us and future generations of a valuable resource - our wildlife.

No one knows for sure the number of animals killed by poachers every year. estimates indicate that poachers take as much fish and game as legitimate sportsmen do during the legal seasons. In addition, the poacher does not confine his kill to game species. Non-game, endangered and threatened wildlife are also included in the poacher's bag.

WHO ARE THE POACHERS?

Poaching is surrounded by myths that just aren't true. Poachers are not poor people who are merely trying to feed their families. Putting food on the table is one of the least common motives. Poachers kill just for the thrill of killing and for profit. Poachers kill wildlife anywhere, anytime, and any way they can, using the most unsporting methods. Poachers often use expensive vehicles, guns and equipment purchased through their profitable trafficking in illegal wildlife.

To put it simply, poachers are criminals and they should be dealt with as criminals.

WHY YOU SHOULD REPORT POACHERS

Despite their best efforts, it is not possible for Conservation Police Officers to apprehend all violators on their own. They need the guidance and assistance of the public to be most effective.

Poachers are stealing *your* wildlife. Your help is needed to catch them.

Remember, good law enforcement is everybody's responsibility. If you see a violation, report it.

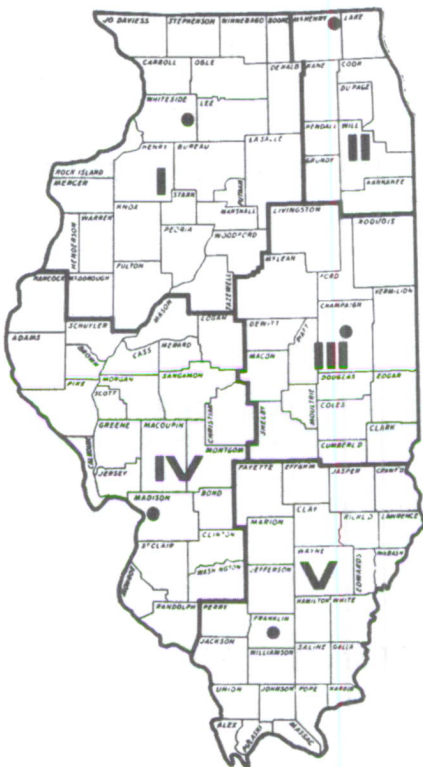
REGION I
2317 EAST LINCOLNWAY, SUITE A
STERLING, IL 61081
(815) 625-2968

REGION II &
LAKE MICHIGAN E
2050 WEST STEARNS
BARTLETT, IL 60110
(847) 608-3100

REGION III
2005 ROUND BAR
CHAMPAIGN, IL 61820
(217) 276-5773

REGION IV
4541 ALTON COM
ALTON, IL 62002
(618) 462-1181

REGION V
11731 STATE HIGH
BENTON, IL 62812
(618) 435-8138



T.I.P.

TARGET ILLINOIS POACHERS

REPORT VIOLATIONS TO:

1-877-2DNRLAW
(236-7529)

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Equal opportunity to participate in programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies is available to all individuals regardless of race, sex, national origin, disability, age, religion or other non-merit factors. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the funding source's civil rights office and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, IDNR, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702, 217/785-0067; TTY 217/782-9175.

This information may be provided in an alternative format if required. Contact the DNR Clearinghouse at 217/782-7498 for assistance.

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